

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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U.S. FISH EXPERTS TO RUSSIA

A four-man delegation of U.S. fisheries specialists is visiting the Soviet Union to observe Pacific salmon work in the Soviet Far East and to become acquainted with aquaculture work in the Lake Baikal area.

The delegation is headed by Lynn Hutchens, program coordinator of the Coastal Anadromous Fish Program for the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.

In addition to Hutchens, the U.S. delegation of specialists includes: Donald Nelson, President, Sterling H. Nelson and Sons, a fish feed company in Murray, Utah; Dr. John Halver, Senior Scientist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Seattle, Washington; and Gary L. Rumsey, Director, Tunison Laboratory of Fish Nutrition, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Cortland, New York.

Their itinerary includes visits to salmon hatcheries and research sites in Krasnodar, Volgograd, Leningrad, Irkutsk, Ulan Ude (on Lake Baikal), and Yuzhno Sakhalinsk on Sakhalin Island. They are the second group of Americans to visit Sakhalin, an island off the far southeastern coast of the U.S.S.R. north of Japan. Under the 1972 U.S.-U.S.S.R. Environmental Protection Agreement, a team of U.S. tsunami--tidal wave--specialists visited the island last summer.

This is a reciprocal visit under the General Exchange Agreement on Fisheries Technology between the Soviet Union and the United States. November 16-December 2, 1975, a five-man Soviet fisheries delegation headed by Dr. Nikolai A. Vanyayev, Minister of the Fish Industry visited the United States under U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsorship.

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